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CONFIDENTIAL
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

3.1. Special Branch Station, 37

REPORT

Date May 13, 1939

Subject Allegations made by Peter B. Eustaff, alias Eustafieff against
A. A. Nogaitzeff.

Made by D. S. Lide

Forwarded by

W. Hagan v.s.

Inquiries have elicited the following information in connection with the attached letters containing allegations against A.A. Nogaitzeff written by Peter B. Eustaff, alias Eustafieff to Mr. R. T. Weston-Griffin, Editor of the North China Daily News.

Eustaff, who is employed as a proof-reader by the North China Daily News, states that he first became acquainted with Nogaitzeff, who is connected with the management of the Evening Echo, whilst employed as a proof-reader by that paper during November 1938.

Towards the end of April, 1939, Nogaitzeff met Eustaff at the Navy Y.M.C.A. and made him a proposition to the effect that he was empowered by a certain party to offer \$200.00 for information regarding the authorship of a letter on the subject of "Gestapo Arrests" which appeared in the North China Daily News of March 22nd, 1939.

Nogaitzeff subsequently met Eustaff from time to time but was non-committal regarding the offer and when pressed for a definite answer on May 16th, he alleged that there were prospects of obtaining the requisite information from another source, but that confirmation would probably be required. He also informed Eustaff that the

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

.....Station,

Date. 19

Subject. - 2 -

Made by. Forwarded by.

party for whom he is working would always be prepared to pay for information of interest.

To the time of submitting this report Eustaff has not been further approached regarding the matter.

Referring to Nogaitzeff's statement that the information might be obtained from an alternative source, Mr. Peyton-Griffin has stated that the identity of the writer is kept under lock and key and is known to no one but himself.

Eustaff, alias Evstafieff previously came to the notice of the Municipal Police on April 24th, 1933 when he appeared before the Shanghai Special District Court on a charge of misappropriation and was sentenced to six months imprisonment suspended for three years. He again appeared before the Court on July 17th, 1934 and was sentenced to eight months imprisonment on a charge of larceny and fraud and ordered to serve his previous sentence.

Nogaitzeff is a Russian journalist who has worked for the Shanghai Zaria, the North China Daily News, the Evening Echo and other newspapers. He was formerly secretary of the publication known as "Argus", an English-Russian weekly which conducted a campaign against

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

Date. 19

- 3 -

Subject

Made by

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A. I. Verkhovt, proprietor of the "Spectator."

In 1933 Verkhovt attempted to organize a group of Russians for the purpose of offering their services to the Emperor of Abyssinia but so far as is known his project was abandoned at an early stage. Although several Police reports contain reference to him, he has always been a law-abiding citizen and nothing to his detriment is on record.

Enquiries have not yet elicited any information regarding the identity of the party on whom Verkhovt is working.

Khoshae

D. S.

DOA.
P. A. to D. C. Sp. Br.
19/5

D. C. (Special Branch.)

Shanghai, May 16, 1939.

L. W. Hyde
(605) Headquarters.

Dear Sir,

As requested by you to give all particulars regarding the bribe of two hundred dollars offered me by a man named A.A. Nagaitzeff (name obtained from the staff of the Evening Echo) I wish to say that I first associated with this man sometime in November last when I did some proof-reading for the Evening Echo.

In December, however, of the same year, for private reasons I could not continue working for them and so left in spite of their offers to me for a higher pay to remain, nevertheless A.A. Nagaitzeff, many a time in meeting me at the Navy Y.M.C.A. restaurant, persisted in making me change my opinion until one day he suddenly asked me if I wanted to make two hundred dollars, this excited my curiosity and interest and as I was interested he told me to obtain somehow the name of the person who wrote a letter to the editor of the North China Daily News, 17 The Bund Shanghai where I am employed, which subject I later discovered to be on "Gestapo Arrests".

In the meantime, I agreed before him to do so and on leaving him reported the matter to my present editor to whom I already made a written statement up to that time of writing.

Ever since I called on the police as advised by my editor there was some difficulty in trying to reach him to discuss whether the other party (unknown to me) still wanted the name until today when I met him and pressed him again about the outcome of his conversation with that certain other man or men. He told me not to talk loud and he had mentioned to the other party that the letter writer's name could be disclosed and while on the subject he asked me to keep all my contacts open with the North China Daily News and to wait as he half-thought that the other party had an idea of who the writer was but formed the idea that a confirmation from me would be eventually required - Anyway, he asked me to keep everything open as that party would always be willing to pay for any information wanted by them in future and asked me to be very careful and to let no one know about this. This is all till the time of writing.

Sincerely yours
 Peter A. Eustaff.
 % North China Daily News
 47 The Bund.
 Shanghai.



NAVY Y. M. C. A.

SHANGHAI

CHINA

Shanghai, May 29, 1939

Dear Mr. Griffin.

As an employee of the North China Daily News, I feel it my duty to inform you of a bribe that was offered me to divulge the name of a correspondent to letters to the Editor in the issue of March 22, 1939.

Some days ago, I met a man whom I first saw at the Shanghai Evening Echo, where I did some part-time proofreading. We do not know each other otherwise but he strikes me as being some kind of a partner in the said firm.

This man approached me one night at the Y.M.C.A. where I live and was prepared to hand me ~~to hand me~~ \$200. (two hundred dollars in local currency) the moment I crossed the original letter over to him which is believed to be written by a German.

It may be claimed that I agreed to do so without any intention of doing so, it is my hope to assist you if you are interested in the matter to see the real motive behind this bribe & remain

Yours respectfully,
Peter B. Eustaff.
Proofreader



NAVY Y. M. C. A.

SHANGHAI

CHINA

66831

NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS

MAR 22 1939

**Gestapo Arrests:
Another German's Views**

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Allow me to give my opinion on WOLF SCHENKE's letter re "Gestapo Arrests."

I am German, not Jewish, and left Germany about two years ago. I don't want you to publish my name. I like my relatives to live further on in Germany.

I have been in Prague and met there quite a number of these so called "traitors," who seemed to me much better Germans than those governing Germany at the time being. They had to leave Germany as that was their only chance to serve their country in the future. The only defect to be claimed against these political refugees is, that they served their country before 1933. No other country would even think of arresting the members of a gone government as is the custom of the Gestapo.

Besides, I am absolutely sure that lots of Czechs are arrested by the "Gestapo." Most of Czechoslovakians inhabitants hated Germany with all their hearts and will go on to hate them until either all of them are killed or until there will be no more Gestapo in all Europe.

May I congratulate Mr. SCHENKE on the coup of his Fuehrer, hoping that Czechoslovakia will be ripe enough to hang him.

GERMAN WITH STILL OWN IDEAS.
Shanghai, Mar. 21.